

I object to the NAB petition in MB 04-160 for the following reasons:
NAB argues that AM/FM stations are for local content and XM Satellite Radio is for nationwide content. However, AM/FM stations routinely violate their promise of local content by broadcasting nationally syndicated programs, voice-tracked programs from distant cities, etc. NAB cannot have it both ways. The sad fact (for AM/FM) is that XM Satellite Radio is doing a much better job of serving *local* audiences than AM/FM, even though XM Satellite Radio is a nationwide service.

Broadcasting the traffic and weather information for a particular city to the entire country in the manner that XM Satellite Radio is doing provides a tremendous service to the millions of us who travel from city to city. Being able to tune in to a distant city's traffic information before leaving on a trip helps us determine what roads to avoid because of construction or other events. Knowing such things before departing for our destination can save us considerable time. I have found this service to be very helpful. I am happy to pay \$10 a month to XM Satellite Radio for this service. Please don't take it away.

NAB's complaints about potential use of advanced technology by XM Satellite Radio are laughable. Is our country supposed to be a technology leader or what? At some point in the future, I expect XM Satellite Radio to have the ability to insert localized warnings about impending storms, terrorist attacks, etc. I want to receive these messages. The Commission requires cable companies to insert local EAS warnings into the nationwide programs that they carry. The Commission should be encouraging XM Satellite Radio to do the same. It should *not* be encouraging XM Satellite Radio to keep its listeners in the dark. Instead of trying to thwart XM Satellite Radio's use of new technology, NAB should be trying to improve AM/FM radio's use of new technology.

Instead of using its billions of dollars to lobby against XM Satellite Radio why doesn't NAB just buy Sirius Satellite Radio, turn off the satellites, and use the terrestrial repeaters in each market to originate 100 channels of advertiser supported local programming per market? It could take that opportunity to upgrade the Sirius system to the XM audio compression system. The AM and FM bands could then be turned over to the advocates of low power services, with new low power rules that would enable tens of thousands of new low power stations to be authorized.

Alternatively, NAB and its members should upgrade their own spectrum. XM gives me 120 audio channels in 12.5 MHz of spectrum. NAB and its AM/FM members offer me far fewer channels per market in nearly twice the spectrum. AM/FM broadcasters have completely failed to embrace new technology. They should not be blaming XM Satellite Radio for their own failures.

The bottom line is that I am the public. I know what is in my best interest. I have considered all of the radio options available to me and determined that XM Satellite Radio best serves my interests. Even though XM Satellite Radio costs me \$10 a month, and AM/FM radio is free, XM is *still* a better value. What does that say about what AM/FM broadcasters are doing with their spectrum?

Please reject the NAB petition in MB 04-160.